

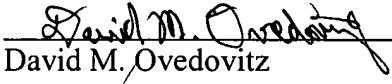
Remarks

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to cancel claims 2-5, 7-10 and 12-15 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein.

In light of the above-mentioned amendments, examination of the present application on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroshi YAHATA et al.

By: 
David M. Ovedovitz
Registration No. 45,336
Attorney for Applicants

DMO/jmj
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
February 10, 2006